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STATINTL

Army Spying Held Subversive

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Rep. Abner J. Mikva, D-Ill., one of several politicians reportedly subjected to scrutiny by Army intelligence, today called for congressional action for a "complete ban on all domestic surveillance by the military."

Mikva was scheduled to testify today as a Senate subcommittee began probing civilian snooping activities by the Army and other military services.

In his prepared statement, Mikva said all domestic problems should be handled by civilian law enforcement agencies. He charged that the "whole sordid affair" of recently reported Army intelligence surveillance and the reaction to it by "the cover-uppers in the Pentagon" has exacerbated what he called a crisis of public confidence.

"The True Subversives"

"Those military officers who would arrogate to themselves the duty to watch-peaceful citizens' political activities are the true subversives in our society," charged Mikva, who reportedly was among public officials spied on by the 113th Military Intelligence Group in Illinois in 1953.

The Senate investigation is being led by Sen. Sam J. Ervin Jr., D-N.C. His Judiciary subcommittee on Constitutional is hoping to learn the scope of military surveillance of civilian political activity, who authorized it, what happened to the data collected and what steps have been taken to halt such practices.

The Chicago Sun-Times reported that the Pentagon has refused to produce several top-ranking Army Intelligence officers Ervin wanted to question during the nine days of hearings, which Ervin opened yesterday

with a review of the extent of government data files on citizens.

Civilians to Testify

Instead, the Pentagon plans to send two civilians -- Asst. Secretary Robert Froehlke Jr., and Robert E. Jordan, general counsel to the Army -- when government witnesses begin testifying next week. It reportedly wants to avoid any suggestion that the military intelligence operations were conducted without full civilian control.

Ervin said yesterday that if the civilian officials fail to answer his questions satisfactorily, he may subpoena the military officers as witnesses.

Among those scheduled to testify today were three former Army intelligence agents, Christopher H. Pyle, Ralph Stein and John O'Briend, who elaborated on their previous charges of extensive military "monitoring" of anti-war activists, civil rights groups, and politicians including members of Congress.

"Loose Coalition"

Pyle, of New York, a former Army Intelligence captain now working on his doctorate in political science at Columbia University, outlined the nature of the intelligence operations in his prepared testimony.

"Plainly stated," Pyle said, "My thesis is that the U.S. today possesses the intelligence apparatus of a police state . . . it exists today as a loose coalition of federal, state, municipal and military agencies."

Pyle charged that what these agencies have done "in their cagerness to protect us from subversion, espionage and civil disorder is to impose a blanket surveillance upon nearly all political dissent throughout the U.S."

Pyle first revealed the exist-

ence of the Army's civilian spy network in a Washington Monthly article a year ago.

The most detailed descriptions of the surveillance practices was offered by Stein, of Flushing, N.Y., a former agent in the Counter-Intelligence Analysis Branch (CIBA), office of the assistant chief of staff for Army Intelligence, from 1965 to 1968.

In 1967 and 1968, Stein said, he was directed to start and maintain a "left wing" intelligence desk for CIBA. Two other agent-analysts instituted "racial" and "right wing" desks at the same time, he testified.

"I was to literally cover all aspects of left wing activity in the United States . . . I was unable to ascertain the originating authority for such a wide-sweeping policy," he said.

Each day, Stein said, he received "thousands of FBI reports and a great number of military intelligence reports on groups and persons engaged in dissident activity," most of which were placed in a CIBA microfilm data bank.

Scope of Reports

Organizations included in the reports ranged from the American Nazi Party and Ku Klux Klan to the Students for a Democratic Society, the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee, the NAACP, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and the Urban League, he said.

Stein said that "among the better known persons in CIBA's files" were the late Dr. Martin Luther King; his successor, Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy; Julius Hobson, a candidate for non-voting delegate from the District; folk singers Joan Baez and Arlo Guthrie, and a number of retired military officers includ-

ing retired Navy Rear Adm. Arnold E. True.

Despite previous reports from some authorities, Stein said, newspaper and magazine clippings constituted only a minor part of the CIBA files.

Data 'Was Useless'

Stein noted that the Army theoretically engaged in all of its surveillance of civilians in order to be prepared for possible civil disturbances. But, he said, when the riots of 1968 broke out, "the information we had been collecting for so long was useless . . ."

At various times, Stein said, he was required to give briefings on individuals and organizations to a number of Army officials and even to the Central Intelligence Agency.

In the case of the CIA, he said, he provided information on "underground" and student newspapers. "The questions asked suggested a deep interest in the beliefs of the students who published these papers. I think an inquiry into the CIA's involvement in domestic intelligence is called for," Stein told the subcommittee.